

**AOML**

Miami, Florida

# Keynotes

June 1999

Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

Volume 3, Number 6

## Help Promote NOAA Recognition

There is a heightened awareness within our agency that NOAA is not getting due recognition for its crucial mission of conducting high-quality research. In line with the need to gain greater exposure and recognition for NOAA research, Dr. David Evans, Assistant Administrator of NOAA for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, suggests that OAR employees start with "the little things such as the way we answer our telephones." One easily-implemented suggestion would be to change the voice mail greeting on our telephones to include phrases like "...a NOAA research facility."

Our public affairs office also reminds us that we should clearly identify ourselves as NOAA employees when we have contact with the media and/or make public appearances and presentations. We should also reinforce our NOAA affiliation by the strategic placement of NOAA logos, *etc.* within the view of television cameras during interviews and photo opportunities.

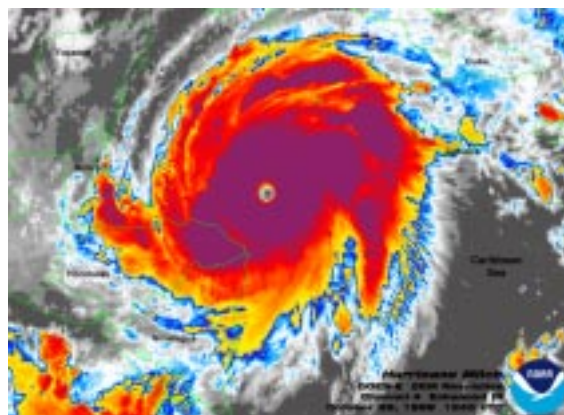
While there is a strong tendency for individuals to promote their own research facilities, we should realize that by taking care of NOAA's recognition first, we will help secure a bright future for our individual labs.



**AOML will participate in the  
Key Biscayne  
Fourth of July Parade**  
Watch upcoming email  
messages for details

## NOAA Forecasts Active 1999 Hurricane Season

Scientists from AOML's Hurricane Research Division, the National Hurricane Center, and Climate Prediction Center have released their first outlook for the June 1-November 30, 1999 Atlantic hurricane season. The 1999 season is likely to produce above-average tropical storm and hurricane activity, as well as three or more intense hurricanes. A normal hurricane season produces nine to 10 tropical storms, of which five to six become hurricanes and two become classified as intense hurricanes. Scientists attribute the outlook for enhanced storm activity to the expected continuation of favorable atmospheric circulation patterns, tropical rainfall patterns, and ongoing La Niña conditions.



Hurricane Mitch churning across the Atlantic.

The La Niña weather phenomenon produces cooler-than-average sea-surface temperatures across the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, enhanced rainfall patterns across Indonesia and the eastern Indian Ocean, and diminished rainfall in the eastern equatorial Pacific. La Niña episodes have historically contributed to a greater number of hurricanes in the Atlantic basin. Since the current La Niña episode is expected to persist through the 1999 season, it could help maintain conditions that favor an increase in hurricane activity.

Much of this potential increase in activity is predicted to occur from August to mid-October, considered the period of peak activity for tropical storm/hurricane formation. The continental United States sometimes experiences a higher number of landfalling hurricanes than usual during active hurricane seasons. The Caribbean region is also at greater risk of experiencing tropical storms and hurricanes, as was recently observed in the 1995, 1996, and 1998 seasons.

A second hurricane outlook for the Atlantic basin will be issued in early August which should more accurately indicate whether the remaining portion of the season will experience increased, lessened, or normal activity.

### NAMES FOR 1999 ATLANTIC BASIN STORMS

Arlene	Bret	Cindy	Dennis	Emily	Floyd	Gert
Harvey	Irene	Jose	Katrina	Lenny	Maria	Nate
Ophelia	Philippe	Rita	Stan	Tammy	Vince	Wilma



photo courtesy of the NOAA/Department of Commerce

# Federal Women's Council Workshop

June 17, 1999

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science

Workshop Topics Include:

Public Speaking  
HTML ♦ Writing  
Stress Management  
Observing Hurricanes  
Hurricane Storm Shutters

Each session will be approximately 1 hour

For more information contact:

Joyce Berkeley (305-361-4309 or [berkeley@aoml.noaa.gov](mailto:berkeley@aoml.noaa.gov))

AOML now has a calendar/special events web page that also contains new items of interest. The page can be accessed by an image link on the AOML front page or by going directly to:

<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/events.html>

Please submit upcoming events or activities of AOML-wide interest to [coverden@aoml.noaa.gov](mailto:coverden@aoml.noaa.gov). Ideas or constructive criticism for this page should also be submitted to Erica Van Coverden.

## Joanne Simpson - An Inspiration

Kristina Katsaros

This past spring it was a great pleasure for me to welcome Dr. Joanne Simpson, Chief Scientist for Meteorology at the NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center, and her husband, Dr. Bob Simpson, to AOML. Both are well known to many people at AOML from the Storm Fury Project of the 1960s and 1970s. That program attempted to modify the intensity of hurricanes by cloud seeding. Today, AOML and the Hurricane Research Division carry on the legacy from the Storm Fury days. Current emphasis is on predicting the path and development of hurricanes under different circumstances.

On April 13, 1999, Joanne made a presentation at AOML about the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) satellite and shared new TRMM observations of rain patterns in hurricanes (see figure below). She also discussed collaboration using TRMM satellite data and HRD research flight measurements. Additionally, Joanne and Bob gave lectures at the National Hurricane Center as part of a course for Caribbean hurricane forecasters.

Joanne has had a special place in my life as the first atmospheric scientist of the feminine gender I knew about. What a role model! Her 1962 article on air-sea interaction in volume II of *The Sea* was like an electric charge for me. Her language rang a bell. Joanne's enthusiasm, energy, and indomitable spirit in the face of "cultural" and health obstacles have been truly inspirational to those following in her footsteps. She didn't just open doors for women entering the field of air-sea interaction, she broke down walls. Joanne was an inspiration long before I met her in person. Now I treasure her as a special friend.

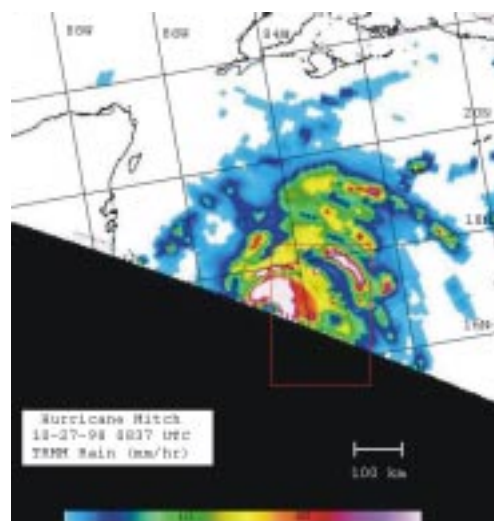
She continues to enthusiastically carry out meteorological research with the TRMM satellite, a program she shepherded from its inception through its launch of the first rain radar instrumentation into space (1986-1997) (Simpson *et al.*, 1996, *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 69:278-295). Joanne also serves as a member of NOAA's Science Advisory Board (she certainly has the perspective of a distinguished career and the accumulated wisdom to "cut to the chase" of what really matters).

In early December 1999, numerous colleagues will celebrate Joanne's 50 years in science. Imagine that! I will be there with bells on to say again what I am saying here. I would love to hear from *Keynotes* readers about your memories/anecdotes from Joanne's days in the Cumulus Convection Project based in Miami. I am certain there will be many to share. I am very grateful to have had her shining example. Even though it could have been daunting, it never felt that way. Thank you, Joanne!



Dr. Joanne Simpson with AOML Director Kristina Katsaros.

photo courtesy of Robert Simpson



TRMM rain image of Hurricane Mitch.

photo courtesy of the Naval Research Laboratory



## Congratulations

Sim Aberson, Meteorologist with the Hurricane Research Division, has been appointed to serve on NOAA's Diversity Council for a two-year period.

Erica Van Coverden, a CIMAS Research Associate working in AOML's Microwave Remote Sensing Group, was awarded her Master's degree in Marine Affairs and Policy by the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science on May 14, 1999.

Carl Sandin, MAST Academy high school student and summer intern for the Hurricane Research Division, received the MAST Academy's Outstanding Science Student Award on June 2, 1999. The award was presented by AOML Director Kristina Katsaros at the MAST Academy's Annual Awards Ceremony.

Danny Medina, son of Gladys Medina, Office of the Director's Executive Secretary, married Jessica Becerra on May 16, 1999 at Signature Gardens in Miami. Best wishes to the newlyweds.

## Baby Michelle on the Mend

Michelle Lauren Cuervo, youngest member of AOML's extended family, is home from the hospital and doing well. Michelle became ill shortly after her birth on May 4, 1999 and spent a week in the neonatal intensive care unit of Miami Children's Hospital. Her parents, Armando and Lourdes Cuervo, are grateful for the outpouring of concern and support from fellow AOML staffers.



## OAR Outreach Coordinators Meet at AOML

AOML hosted the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research's (OAR) annual Outreach Coordinators' Workshop on April 27-29, 1999. Outreach coordinators from the 12 Environmental Research Laboratories (ERL) field facilities plus representatives from OAR and ERL headquarters and the NOAA Constituent, Legislative, and Public Affairs offices attended.



Outreach coordinators during workshop sessions at the MAST Academy.

The meeting was divided into several segments covering issues such as OAR web page activities, educational outreach, outreach to congress, constituent communication, and customer service plans. The workshop segments included presentations by a number of local scientists and educators, including AOML's Kristina Katsaros and Hugh Willoughby, RSMAS Assistant Dean Virginia Newell, Florida Sea Grant Extension Officer Harrison Bresee, and Miami-Dade's Public School Science Supervisor, Gus Loret-De-Mola. The workshop agenda also included tours of the National Hurricane Center, AOML, the Maritime and Science Technology (MAST) Academy High School, and the National Undersea Research Project Aquarius Center in Key Largo, Florida.

## Farewell

Andreas Roubicek, a three-year veteran of AOML, resigned on June 1, 1999 to accept a position with NOAA's Climate Diagnostics Center in Boulder, Colorado.

## Visiting Scientist

Dr. James Carswell from the Microwave Remote Sensing Laboratory at the University of Massachusetts visited AOML from June 2-11, 1999. He collaborated with HRD staff on an airborne microwave remote sensing project supported by the U.S. Weather Research Program's Hurricanes at Landfall program. Dr. Carswell also discussed satellite remote sensing issues with Dr. Kristina Katsaros, AOML Director, and presented a seminar entitled "High-wind airborne scatterometry."

Dr. Carswell designed and built the C-SCAT scatterometer now flown on the NOAA WP-3D aircraft operated by NOAA's Aircraft Operations Center. He has built an improved dual-frequency version of this instrument, the UMASS C-SCAT/K-SCAT system, that he will fly on the WP-3D aircraft this summer during hurricane reconnaissance flights. Data will be used to extend existing C-band and K-band satellite-based algorithms for retrieving high winds from satellite measurements on the ERS-2 C-band satellite scatterometer and the new Quikscat K-band satellite scatterometer scheduled for launch on June 18, 1999.

### UPCOMING INFORMAL RESEARCH REPORTS\*

Date	Division	Speaker	Title of Report
June 15, 1999	OCD	Dr. Terry Nelsen	Using suspended particle-based information for resolving plume mixing as well as sources, pathways, and sinks in coastal environmental studies.

\*All reports begin at 3:00 p.m. in the first-floor conference room.

## Travel

Hugh Willoughby and Stanley Goldenberg will attend the 3rd Annual Caribbean Weather Conference in Nassau on June 2-6, 1999.

Stanley Goldenberg will attend the Intermediaries and Reinsurance Underwriters Association Claims Workshop in Jacksonville, Florida on June 7-8, 1999.

James Hendee will attend the International Workshop on the Use of Remote Sensing Tools for Mapping and Monitoring Coral Reefs in Honolulu, Hawaii on June 7-10, 1999.

Michael Minton will attend a DECUS symposium and seminar in Providence, Rhode Island on June 11-17, 1999.

Gregg Thomas will travel to Boston, Massachusetts on June 13, 1999 to begin installation of a thermosalinograph system on the container vessel *Selfoss*. This vessel will replace the *Godafoss*, which maintains a three-week run between the ports of Iceland, Boston, and Norfolk. Mr. Thomas will ride the vessel to Norfolk, Virginia to complete the installation and begin collecting discrete salinity samples for calibration and validation of the delayed mode data collected with the system. A SEAS XBT system was recently installed on the vessel by Gregg Thomas and Jim Farrington of the Physical Oceanography Division's GOOS Center.

Mark Powell will attend the 10th International Conference of Wind Engineering in Copenhagen, Denmark on June 21-23, 1999.

Judy Gray will attend the National Severe Storms Laboratory Review on June 22-23, 1999 in Norman, Oklahoma.

## AEROBICS CLASS

Monday • Wednesday • Friday

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
(½ hr kick-boxing/½ hr toning)

1st Floor Conference Room

Contact Ginger Garte  
(305-361-4430 or  
garte@aoml.noaa.gov)

## Team AOML Competes in Miami Corporate Run

AOML competed in the Miami Corporate Run held at Bayfront Park, downtown Miami, on May 6, 1999. Runners and walkers from local Miami corporations, government agencies, and financial institutions participated in the 3.1 mile road race sponsored by AvMed to benefit the Leukemia Society of America. AOML's 1999 Corporate Run team featured 22 members guided by Ginger Garte and Peter Black. In addition, outreach volunteers Erica Van Coverden, Eric Uhlhorn, and Joe Bishop manned the AOML tent to keep scorecards for the team and to distribute informational brochures about NOAA/AOML. Team members wore t-shirts designed by Evan Forde, oceanographer with the Office of the Director.



The "official" Team AOML picture: front row (left to right): Erica Van Coverden, John Kaplan, Shirley Murillo, Jannette Perez, Ginger Garte, Cathy Steward, Robert Rogers, Peter Dodge, Frank Marks, Joe Cione, and Dave Steward. Second row: Charles Featherstone, Peter Black, Craig Engler, Paul Willis, Judy Gray, John Perez, Oscar Otero, Joe Bishop, Chris Landsea, John Gamache, and Pam Cione.

Keynotes can be viewed online in PDF format at the following  
Internet web site address:  
<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/keynotes>

Keynotes is published monthly by the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted prior to the last week of each month to ensure inclusion in the following month's edition. Please address all correspondence to Ms. Gail Derr, Office of the Director, 4301 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149. Contributions may also be submitted by fax (305-361-4442) or email (derr@aoml.noaa.gov).

Editor – Kristina Katsaros

Publishing Editor – Gail Derr

The deadline for submitting material for the July issue of *Keynotes* is Friday, June 25, 1999.